

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

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Cancel claims 1-18 and enter new claims 19-38

19. (New) A method of administering payment for obligations of a customer, the method comprising the steps of:

providing an administrator having a database and an administrative program;

creating a customer account in the database;

transmitting a payment instruction from the administrator;

providing a notification program, the notification program transmitting a notice to a customer of activity on the customer account.

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20. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the notification program transmits a notice to a customer in real-time.

21. (New) The method of claims 18, wherein the administrator includes a customer interface, the customer interface being operable to permit access to the customer account.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the notification program is operable to transmit a notice to a customer at a predetermined time.

23. (New) An administration system for directing payments for financial obligations of a customer, the system comprising:

an administrator having a database and an administrative program, the database including a customer file, the customer file including a purchase parameter, the administrative program including a merchant approval program and a collection program, the merchant approval program being operable to query the customer file in response to approval request.

24. The administration system of claim 23, wherein the customer file further comprises a customer identifying statistic.

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25. (New) The administration system of claim 24, wherein the customer identifying statistic is selected from a group consisting of: customer name, customer address, customer telephone number, customer social security number, customer date of birth and customer bank account number.

26. (New) The administration system of claim 23, wherein the purchase parameter comprises a customer monetary payment limit for a purchase.

27. (New) The administration system of claim 23, wherein the purchase parameter comprises a customer monetary payment limit for all purchases within a predetermined period of time.

28. (New) The administration system of claim 23, wherein the database further comprises a merchant file.

29. (New) The administration system of claim 28, wherein the merchant file includes a merchant category.

30. (New) The administration system of claim 23, wherein the customer file includes a payment option.

31. (New) The administration system of claim 23, wherein the administrative program further comprises an account opening program.

32. (New) The administration system of claim 23, wherein the administrative program further comprises a notification program.

33. (New) The administration system of claim 23, wherein the administrative program further comprises a customer account interface.

34. (New) A method of administering payments for transactions made by a customer from a merchant, the method comprising:

creating a database having a customer file, the customer file including a purchase parameter;

receiving a transaction approval request;

transmitting an approval of the transaction approval request when the request falls within the purchase parameter.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the purchase parameter comprises a customer monetary payment limit for a purchase.

36. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the purchase parameter comprises a customer monetary payment limit for all purchases within a predetermined period of time.

a' 37. (New) The method of claim 34, further comprising the step of transmitting an electronic notice in real time to a customer.

38. (New) A method of administering payments for transactions made by a customer from a merchant, the method comprising:

creating a database having a customer file, the customer file including a purchase parameter;

receiving a transaction approval request;

transmitting an approval notice of the transaction approval request when the request falls within the purchase parameter.

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